



SANDIFER, Bill [R]—(Dist. No. 2, *Oconee-Pickens Cos.*)—Businessman; residing at 112 Cardinal Dr., Seneca; *b.* Feb. 21, 1945, in Aiken; *s.* the late William Edward, Jr. and the late Frances Harley Sandifer; *g.* Cincinnati Coll. of Mortuary Science, 1965; Nov. 6, 1981, *m.* Sandra Prater, proud father and grandfather; Pres.: S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., 1987; S.C. State Bd. of Funeral

Serv., 1983; Seneca Chamber of Commerce, 1978; Chm., Bd. of Dirs.: Oconee Memorial Hosp., 1986–88; Fort Hill Natural Gas Authority, 1994; Champion of Housing Award, S.C. Home Builders, 1996–97; Hammer and Trowel Award by Home Builders Assn. of S.C., 1998; Natl. Rep. Legislator of the Year, 2000; Bd. of Dirs., Seneca Natl. Bank; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., 2000; Legislator of the Year, City of Seneca, 2000; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Cemetery Assn., 2002; Legis. Leadership Award, S.C. Tel. Assn., 2002; S.C. Guardian of Small Bus. Award, Natl. Fed. of Independent Bus., 2002; Asst. Majority Leader, 2002–04; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Realtors Assn., 2002; Legis. Award by Amer. Legion, Dept. of S.C., 2003; Hall of Fame Award, Seneca Chamber of Commerce, 2004; 2003 Distinguished Serv. Award, Home Builders Assn. of Greenville; Special Legis. Award, S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., for highest office held by a mem. of the Assn.; Legislator of the Year, Manufactured Housing Inst. of S.C., 2009; Champion of Health Care, S.C. Med. Assn., 2009–; Distinguished Chairman of LCI, S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., 2009; “Peas & Carrots” Award by Citizens for Sound Conservation for “Improving our Environmental & Economical Quality of Life”, 2010, 2012; 2010, 2012 & 2013 Sword & Mace Award by S.C. BIPEC; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Cable Assn., 2010; inducted into the S.C. Homebuilder’s Hall of Fame, 2010; past Chm., Energy & Environmental Com., Southern Legis. Conf.; 2013 & 2014 Golden Apple Award, Natl. Coalition for Public School Options; 2013 Paul Harris Fellow Award, Seneca Rotary Club; 2013 Outstanding Serv. Award, United Way; 2013 W. Mack Chamblee Quality of Life Award, S.C. Realtors; 2013–14 Legislator of the Year Award, Natl. Guard Assn. of S.C.; Appreciation for Outstanding Leadership & Support, S.C. Assn. of CPAs, 2014; Profound Gratitude

for Support of Captive Industry, S.C. Captive Ins. Assn., 2015; Bus. Advocate Award, S.C. Chamber of Commerce, 2015, 2016; Recognition for Perfect 100% Legis. Score, Palmetto Family, 2015–16; Rep. of the Year, S.C. Pawnbrokers Assn., 2016; mem., VC, Southern States Energy Bd.; mem. & past Master, Seneca Masonic Lodge; mem. & past Worthy Patron, Seneca Order of Eastern Star; mem., Seneca Elks Lodge; 2019 S.C. Ins. Assn. Legislator of the Year; 2020 Upstate Forever Public Servant of the Year; mil. serv.: SCARNG, 20 years, retired Maj.; prev. serv. in House 1995–22.

SCHUESSLER, Carla M. [R]—(Dist. No. 61, *Horry Co.*)—COO, Complete Legal Defense Team; residing in Horry Co.; *b.* Sept. 18, 1972, in Ft. Wayne, Ind.; *d.* the late Carl W. Weaver and Elizabeth C. Kuchar; *g.* Illinois State Univ., B.S., 1996; 2 children, Jack R. and Nathan R.; Leadership Grand Strand, 2009; Leadership Grand Strand Bd. of Regents, 2009–12; Exec. Dir., Habitat for Humanity of Horry Co., 2014–20; Grand Strand Housing and Comm. Dev. Corp. Bd. of Dirs., 2015–19; Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Bd. of Dirs., 2015–19, 2022, Bd. Chairwoman, 2018; recipient of Ann DeBock Leadership Award, 2016; S.C. Assn. of Habitat Affiliates Bd. of Dirs., 2018–20, Bd. Pres., 2019–20; Chm., Myrtle Beach Work Force Housing Task Force, 2019; Grand Strand Water & Sewer Citizens Adv. Com., 2021–22; mem., Wellspring Church; Wellspring Youth Group Leader, 2016–.



SESSIONS, Heath [R]—(Dist. No. 46, *York Co.*)—VP, Construction; residing at 854 Myrtle Dr., Rock Hill; *b.* Nov. 24, 1976, in Spartanburg; *s.* Adam Hernandez and Vickie Sessions; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 2004; Oct. 9, 2004, *m.* Kristin, 3 children, Emma, Ben, and Asher; Historic Rock Hill Bd., 2021–; Camp Canaan Bd., 2022; Winthrop Stakeholder Bd., 2022; Deacon, Oakland Baptist Church, 2019–20, Personnel Chm., 2020, 2022.



SMITH, George Murrell, Jr., Speaker (for biography and picture see p. 82).



SMITH, Marvin "Mark" [R]—(Dist. No. 99, *Berkeley Co.*)—Small Bus. Owner; residing at 1125 Pinefield Dr., Daniel Island; *b.* June 18, 1970, in Bamberg; *s.* the late Randy Smith and Linda Bunch Duffie; *g.* Fayetteville Tech. Coll., A.A., 1993; Oct. 24, 1993, *m.* Elayne Forastiere, 3 sons, Parker, Avery, and Domenic; Pres. & CEO, McAlister-Smith Funeral Homes Inc.; Town council-

man, Mt. Pleasant, 2013; Graduate, S.C. Municipal elected Officials Inst., 2015; past Pres., E. Cooper Rep. Club; Pres., Daniel Island Rep. Club; mem., Daniel Island Rotary Club; past Pres., Rotary Club of Charleston; past Chm.: Low Country Food Bank, S.C. Aging in Place Council, Cremation Assn. of N. America; past VC, S.C. Alzheimer's Assn.; Volunteer participant, Water Missions Intl., Water System Installations in both Ecuador and Peru; Chm., Roper St. Francis Mt. Pleasant Hosp. Bd., 2020–; past Chm., S.C. Adv. Com. on Aging, 2020; mem., St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church, Daniel Island; prev. serv. in House 2021–22.



STAVRAKIS, Leonidas Emmanuel "Leon" [D]—(Dist. No. 119, *Charleston Co.*)—Atty.; residing in Charleston; *b.* in Charleston; *g.* Coll. of Charleston, B.A., 1988; Univ. of S.C. School of Law, J.D., 1992; Chm., Charleston Co. Council, 2005–06; Co. Council, 1999–06; Asst. Solicitor, Ninth Circuit, 1993–96; prev. serv. in House 2007–22.



TAYLOR, Bill [R]—(Dist. No. 86, *Aiken-Lexington Cos.*)—Full-time Legislator/Retired Media Consultant; residing in Aiken Co.; *b.* July 16, 1946, in Aurora, Ill.; *s.* the late Harold and the late Pearl Taylor; attended Bradley Univ., Journalism; Nov. 2, 1970, *m.* Donna J., 2 children, Kasey Taylor Lenz and William Ryan Taylor; Chm.,

Higher Educ. Subcom. (House Educ. & Public Works Com.), 2015–20; 1st VC, House Educ. & Public Works Com., 2013–14; mem.: House Legis. Oversight Com., 2015–20; House Tax Reform Com., 2017–20; Majority Caucus Whip, 2013–16; Television News Dir./Anchor/Reporter, 1965–76; Pres., Illinois News Broadcasters Assn., 1974; Television News Consultant, 1976–07; Co-Founder & CEO of media research & consulting firms based in Dallas, Los Angeles, and London, 1978–07; Consultant to Pres. George H.W. Bush’s “Points of Light” initiative, 1991–92; named “Fifth Estater”, Broadcast & Cable Magazine, 1998; Founder & Commander, Civil Air Patrol Squadron, Rockford, Ill., 1968–71; Amer. Red Cross, Aiken Co. Chap., Bd. mem., 2007–16, Chm., 2009–10; Aiken Salvation Army, Adv. Bd. mem., 2013–; 32° Mason & Shriner; mem., Rotary Club of Aiken, 2009–20; mem., Millbrook Baptist Church, Aiken; S.C. Chamber of Commerce “Bus. Advocate Award”, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016; S.C.-BIPEC “Champion of Free Enterprise”, 2012; Palmetto Family Alliance “A” Rating, 2012 & 2017; NRA “A” Rating, 2012, 2014, 2016; NRA “A+” Rating, 2018, 2020, 2022; Convention of States “Abraham Lincoln Leadership Award, 2018; ABATE’s Comm. Leader Award, 2019; prev. serv. in House 2011–22.

TEDDER, Deon T. [D]—(Dist. No. 109, Charleston-Dorchester Cos.)—Atty.; residing at 2629 Orchid Ave., N. Charleston; *b.* Apr. 26, 1990, in Durham, N.C.; *s.* the late Louis, Jr. and Chandra Tedder; *g.* S.C. State Univ., B.A., 2012; Univ. of S.C. Law School, J.D., 2015; single; prev. serv. in House 2021–22.



THAYER, Anne Johnston [R]—(Dist. No. 9, Anderson Co.)—Owner, Thayer Properties, LLC & Thayer Commercial Properties, LLC; residing at 2010 Lindale Rd., Anderson; *b.* Apr. 13 in Greenville; *d.* Bobby G. and Vivian I. Williams; *g.* Marycrest Coll., B.A., 1990; 1990 *m.* Dr. Mark W. Thayer, 3 children, Brenn, Johnston, and Jordan; Anderson Co. Foster Care Review Bd.,



2003–10; State Foster Care Review Bd., 2005–08; past Chm., Anderson Interfaith Ministries; past Pres., Anderson Heritage; volunteer coordinator, T.L. Hanna High School; former Bd. mem., City of Anderson Bd. of Architectural Control; Family Caucus founding mem.; General Assembly Women's Caucus, 2011–; Sportsman Caucus, 2014–; Anderson Co. Transportation Com., 2014–; Rep. Women's Caucus, 2014–; Anderson Co. Chamber of Commerce Policy Council, 2016–; Appalachian Council of Govt., 2017–21; Secy./Treas., Anderson Co. Delegation; mem. & volunteer, NewSpring Church; prev. serv. in House 2011–22.



THIGPEN, Ivory Torrey [D]—(Dist. No. 79, *Richland Co.*)—Pastor, Rehoboth Baptist Church & Chiropractic Physician, Restore Chiropractic Clinic; residing in Columbia; *b.* May 11, 1978, in Jackson, Miss.; *s.* Ivory Curtis and Carolyn Roberson Thigpen; *g.* Jackson State Univ., B.S., 2000; Palmer Coll. of Chiropractic, Doctor of Chiropractic, 2005; Morehouse

School of Religion-ITC, Masters of Div., 2013; *m.* Martia Creighton, 4 children, Uriaha, Ivana, Ivory III, and Ananias; Chap. Strategist, Kappa Alpha Psi-Delta Delta, 2000; Chap. Pres., SABCA-Palmer, 2003; Legis. Rep., SACA-Palmer, 2004; Palmer Coll. Ethics Bd., 2004; Man of the Year-GABC, 2005; Moderator, FCMBEA, 2012; Exec. Bd., BEMSC, 2012; Chaplain, Providence Hospitals, 2013; Chaplain, Cola. Police Dept., 2015; Exec. Bd. & Bd. of Dirs., Natl. Baptist Convention, USA Inc., 2015; Bd. of Trustees, Morehouse School of Religion, 2017; Health Fellow, S.C. Inst. of Med. & Public Health, 2019; Fellow, S.C. Educ. Policy Fellow Prog., 2020; Beta Kappa Chi, 1998, Scientific Honor Soc.; Theta Phi, 2012, Theological Honor Soc.; prev. serv. in House 2017–22.

TRANHAM, Ashley B. [R]—(Dist. No. 28, *Greenville Co.*)—Commercial Real Estate Broker & Businesswoman; residing in Pelzer; *b.* Nov. 30, 1973, in Greer; Nov. 22, 1997, *m.* Thomas Joseph Trantham III, 2 children; prev. serv. in House Jan. 16, 2018–22.



VAUGHAN, David [R]—(Dist. No. 27, *Greenville Co.*)—Gen. Contractor & Businessman; residing in Simpsonville; *b.* Jan. 21, 1965, in Greenville; *s.* Marion and Sara Vaughan; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.S., 1987; Aug. 19, 1989, *m.* Celeste Martin, 3 children, Miranda, Trevor, and Marlee; Bus. Owner, 1996–; Gen. Contractor, 1998–; Greenville Legis. Delegation Transportation Com., 2018–22; mem., Brookwood Church, 2010–.



WEEKS, David [D]—(Dist. No. 51, *Sumter Co.*)—Atty.; residing at 2 Marlborough Court, Sumter; *b.* Sept. 24, 1953, in Sumter; *s.* the late Goliath Brunson, Sr. and the late Eartha Lee Weeks Brunson; *g.* Morris Coll., B.A., 1975; Howard Univ., M.Ed., 1996; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1989; Morris Coll., School of Religion, 1996; Aug. 31, 1985, *m.* Cheryl Elaine Hannibal, 2 children, Lynette and Davida; Chm., Sumter City-Co. Planning Comm., 1998–00; Chm., Sumter Co. Voter Registration Bd., 1994; Municipal Court Judge, Timmonsville, 1996–00; Morris Coll. Bd. of Trustees, 2001–21; Deacon and church school teacher, Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House 2001–22.




WEST, John Taliaferro IV “Jay”, Ph.D.

[R]—(Dist. No. 7, Abbeville-Anderson-Greenville Cos.)—Businessman & Consultant; residing at 402 Brown Ave., Belton; *b.* Nov. 29, 1964, in Anderson; *s.* John T. West III and Susan Poore Lacy; *g.* Erskine Coll., 1987, Masters, 1992, Doctorate, 1997; Gordon Conwell, Arrow Leadership Dev., 1990–92; Penn State Univ., School of Econ.

Dev., 2007; Jan. 8, 1988, *m.* Jennifer Brice, 3 children, John T. “Jack” West V, Brice McCaslin West, and Gray Thomason West; Mgr., State Farm Ins., 1986–89; VP, Institutional Relations, Erskine Coll., 1993–07; CEO, The Partnership Alliance, 2007–09; The Taliaferro Group, Principal, 2009–; Rotary Citizen of the Year, Abbeville Co., 2000; Innovision Technology Award, 2001; Palmetto Pride Bd. of Dirs., apptd. by Gov. James H. Hodges, 2002–04; Gov’s. Statewide Award for Rural Leadership Dev., S.C. Dept. of Commerce, 2002; S.C. Ambassador for Econ. Dev., 2002; Upstate Alliance Bd. of Dirs., Strategic Planning Com., Chm., Developers Com., 2006–09; Erskine Coll. Bd. of Counselors, 2006–08; S.C. BIO Bd. of Govs., 2006–09; Lander Univ. Bd. of Visitors, 2007–09; SCPAC, Legis. Com., 2015; S.C. Professional Appraisers Coalition Bd. of Dirs., 2016; Chm., Transportation Subcom., Educ. & Public Works, 2017–18; S.C. Health Policy Fellow; Master Mason to Hamilton Lodge #403; Chm., Health Care and Regs. Subcom. on Legis. Oversight, 2019–; Chm., Public Utilities Subcom. on Labor Commerce Industry, 2021–; Public Utilities Review Com., 2021–; Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce Bus. Champion Award, 2019–2020; Asst. Majority Leader, 2021–; prev. serv. in House 2017–22.


WETMORE, Elizabeth “Spencer” [D]—

(Dist. No. 115, Charleston Co.)—Atty., Wetmore Law Firm; residing in Folly Beach; *b.* Apr. 22, 1983, in Charleston; *d.* Kell Brunson Compton and Melinda Lucka Kelley; *g.* Princeton Univ., A.B., 2005; Vanderbilt Univ. School of Law, J.D., 2010; May 3, 2014, *m.* Burns Malone Wetmore, 2 children, Brooks and Lola Kate; Asst. Solicitor,

Charleston Co., 2010–14; City Admin., City of Folly Beach, 2014–20; mem., Tourism Expenditure Review Com., 2018–20; prev. serv. in House Aug. 11, 2020–22.

WHEELER, William W. III “Will” [D]—(Dist. No. 50, Kershaw-Lee-Sumter Cos.)—Atty.; residing at 1930 Camden Hwy., Bishopville; *b.* May 11, 1974, in Sumter; *s.* the late William W. Wheeler, Jr., Fred and Dianne (Beasley) Sandy; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1996, J.D., 1999; Sept. 11, 1999, *m.* Keyes Madagan, 2 children, Elizabeth M. and Jackson H.; Leadership Lee, Class of 2006; Lee Co. DSN Bd.; Mid-Carolina Comm. for Higher Educ.; Partner, Jennings & Jennings, P.A., 2009–; S.C. Bar Assn.; Lee Co. Lions Club; S.C. Health Policy Fellow; Liberty Fellowship Class of 2020; mem., Sunday School teacher, Bethlehem UMC; prev. serv. in House 2017–22.



WHITE, Joseph S. “Joe” [R]—(Dist. No. 40, Lexington-Newberry Cos.)—Retired Businessman; residing at 501 Hamms Landing Rd., Prosperity; *b.* Dec. 13, 1945, in Rockwood, Tenn.; *s.* Joseph and Taylor White; *g.* Univ. of Tenn. Knoxville; Feb. 23, 1968, *m.* Linda Friel, 2 children, Christopher and Robin; CEO, Med. Comfort Systems Inc., 1982–17; mil. serv.: USAF, 1966–69.



WHITMIRE, William Ramsey [R]—(Dist. No. 1, Oconee-Pickens Cos.)—Retired Educ., School Dist. of Oconee Co. & Owner, S & W Farms; residing at 518 W. North Broad St., Walhalla; *b.* Aug. 24, 1948, in Seneca; *s.* Ramsey and Marie Fagan Whitmire; *g.* Piedmont Coll., A.B., 1972; The Hunt Inst. for Public Educ. Policy Initiatives; July 26, 1975, *m.* Kathy Lynn Pittard, 3 children, Ashley Aven, Alayna Brianne, and Trevor Ramsey; Mayor of Walhalla, 2000–02; Mayor *Pro Tempore*, 1998–99; Bd. of Dirs., Walhalla Chamber of Commerce; mem.: Westminster Chamber of Commerce; Walhalla Rotary Club; Walhalla



Lions Club; Walhalla Sertoma Club; Amer. Legion Post 124; Oconee Heritage Center; Patriot's Hall Assn.; Walhalla Oktoberfest Com.; Walhalla City Council; Walhalla Civic Auditorium Bd. of Dirs.; Asst. Coach Walhalla High School, 1976–80; Walhalla High School Football Public Announcer, 1993–; Bd. mem.: S.C. Council on Accreditation and School Improvement; Southern Assn. of Colls. and Schools; Walhalla Jaycees; mem.: Educ. Com. of the Southern Legis. Conf.; S.C.-Ga. Savannah River Caucus; Chm., Com. to Screen Candidates for Bds. of Trustees of State Colls. & Univs.; Soc. of Descendants of the U.S. Constitution; Educ. Oversight Com.; 2010 Amer. Legion Legislator of the Year; 2010, 2011 Bus. Advocate Awards; Historic Old Pickens Foundation; Sportsmen's Caucus; mem., Oconee Co. Soil & Water Conservation Dist.; Chm., Oconee Co. Delegation, 2009–11; mem., Jt. Transportation Review Com.; S.C. House Veteran Caucus; House Mil. Caucus; S.C. Legis. Prayer Caucus; St. Luke's Methodist Church, Outreach Com. Chm., Archives Com. Chm.; Pastor Parish Relations Com.; USAF Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol; mil. serv.: USAR, 1971–77; prev. serv. in House 2003–22.



WILLIAMS, Robert Quintin [D]—(Dist. No. 62, *Darlington*-Florence Cos.)—Bus. Dev. Consultant; residing in Darlington; *b.* July 12, 1964, in Darlington; *s.* the late Robbie “Mae” Williams; *g.* Voorhees Coll., B.S., 1982–84, 1990–91; Troy State Univ., M.P.A., 1999–03; Dec. 5, 1992, *m.* Janice Ham-Williams, 3 children, Jacobie, Rodrick, and Jarell; mem., BDPA Data Processing Assn.;

Bd. mem., Round O. Missionary Baptist Church, Man of the Year Award, 2001; former coach, Darlington Co. Recreation Dept.; Phi Beta Sigma Frat. Inc.; Florence Chamber of Commerce, Humanitarian Award, 2002; mil. serv.: SCARNG, Army Achievement Medal, 2002 and 2004, Army Commendation Medal, 2005; Veteran of the Operation Iraq Freedom, 2005; mem., VFW; GSSM Adv. Bd.; Voorhees Coll. Hall of Fame; Leadership & Entrepreneur Adv. Council, Hartsville; Health Policy Fellow, 2015; prev. serv. in House 2007–22.

WILLIS, Mark Nye [R]—(Dist. No. 16, *Greenville-Laurens Cos.*)—Long Term Care Admin.; residing at 201 Quillen Ave., Fountain Inn; *b.* Aug. 1, 1963, in Greenville; *s.* the late Jack and the late Gerry Willis; *g.* Erskine Coll., B.A., 1986; June 4, 1988, *m.* Tracy Langston, 3 children, Mary-Langston, Elledge, and Reeves; Lander Univ. Bd. of Visitors; Golden Strip Relief Ag. Bd.; Fountain Inn Chamber of Commerce Bd.; Amlkids Piedmont Wilderness Inst. Bd.; mem., Fountain Inn First Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House 2009–22.



WOOTEN, Christopher Sloan “Chris” [R]—(Dist. No. 69, *Lexington Co.*)—residing in Lexington Co.; *b.* Aug. 28, 1968, in Greer; *s.* the late John Wooten and Kay Brank; Greer High School, 1986; Northern Virginia Comm. Coll., 1988–90; 3 children, Woods, Carsan, and Zuri; Presidential Protection Detail (Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush), 1988–91; S.C. State Trooper, 1992–99; mil. serv.: USMC, 1987–91; prev. serv. in House May 1, 2018–22.



YOW, Richard Lloyd “Richie” [R]—(Dist. No. 53, *Chesterfield-Darlington-Lancaster Cos.*)—Air Force Veteran & Retired ANG; residing in Chesterfield Co.; *b.* Oct. 28, 1974, in Cheraw; *s.* Ricky and Judy Jones Yow; *m.* Crystal Lee Wallace, 1 child, RJ; life mem.: Disabled Veterans Assn.; NRA; NGA; mem.: Natl. Wild Turkey Fed.; VFW; Amer. Legion; S.C. Meritorious Serv. Award; S.C. Palmetto Serv. Award; USAF Commendation Award; Louisiana Emergency Serv. Award; NCNG Achievement Award; 6 USAF Achievement Awards; 2 USAF Outstanding Unit Awards with Valor Device; 6 USAFR Forces Meritorious Serv. Awards; Natl. Defense Serv. Award; 2 Southwest Asia Serv. Awards; USAF Overseas Short Tour Ribbon; 2 USAF Longevity Serv. Awards; 2 Armed Forces Reserve Awards;



Lower Macedonia Baptist Church Father of the Year; mil. serv.: USAF, 1992–95; SCANG, 1995–03; NCANG, 2004–09; VIANG, 2009–11; NCANG, 2012–14; prev. serv. in House 2015–22.